

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of forming a composite insulating layer, comprising:
  - a step of forming an adhesive layer containing a partially imidated polyamic acid on a metallic foil;
  - a step of applying a solution containing a polyamic acid to the surface of the adhesive layer;
  - a step of subjecting the coated solution to phase separation to form a porous layer; and
  - a step of subjecting the adhesive layer and the porous layer to imide conversion.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the partially imidated polyamic acid has a ratio  $RA (= A1/A2)$  of an absorbance  $A1$  derived from a C=O bond of an imido ring to an absorbance  $A2$  derived from a C=O bond of an amide acid in the infrared absorption spectrum of 0.1-5.0.
3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of forming an adhesive layer comprises applying a solution containing a polyamic acid to the surface of the metallic foil, and then conducting drying of a solvent contained therein and partial imidation of the polyamic acid, by heating.
4. A composite insulating layer formed by the method as claimed in claim 1.
5. A process of producing a wiring board, comprising a step of forming a insulating layer and a step of forming a wiring layer, wherein the step of forming a insulating layer is carried out to form the insulating layer by the method as claimed in claim 1.